

SENATE RESOLUTION 3 of the Second Extraordinary Session  
By Burks

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Mr. Joseph F. Dyer, Sr.

WHEREAS, the members of this Legislative Body were deeply saddened to learn of the untimely passing of one of its former members, Joseph F. Dyer, Sr. of Cookeville; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dyer was a distinguished public servant of the highest order, who selflessly labored to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, the son of the late Dr. Lex and Audra Haynes Dyer, Joe was a highly respected member of the Cookeville community, where he lived for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dyer was a successful real estate broker, land surveyor, funeral director and newspaperman, all positions in which he earned the universal respect and admiration of his peers for the superior quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, Joe served the good people of Putnam County with acumen as a member of the Tennessee General Assembly from 1955-57 and 1959-61 and was then elected as a delegate to the 1965 Constitutional Convention; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dyer contributed his time and expertise as a member of the Putnam County School Board in the 1970s, and served two terms on the Putnam County Commission; and

WHEREAS, following his retirement from the real estate business, Joe continued his lifelong commitment to the people of Cookeville and Putnam County by running for several local public offices, never shying away from voicing his opinions on issues; and

WHEREAS, during an unsuccessful 1984 campaign, Joe Dyer issued a statement citing his positions on various issues and concluding with the observation, "I have always tried to carry

out my platform. I have never had to take the side road to avoid talking to any person. I have never passed up a person without speaking to him or her. I don't feel that I have ever been defeated, as right will always win out"; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dyer took considerable pride in having never accepted campaign contributions; he reported on one campaign disclosure that he had spent a grand total of fifteen cents during the campaign, and that amount was for a stamp to mail the disclosure form; and

WHEREAS, Joe Dyer evinced his faith as a devout member of the First Presbyterian Church of Cookeville; and

WHEREAS, ever mindful of his patriotic duty to the country he so loved, Mr. Dyer served as a member of the United States armed forces during the Second World War, and was a past commander of the American Legion, Post 46; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Dyer was also deeply devoted to his family; he enjoyed the loving companionship of his beloved wife, Nell Gentry Dyer, and was the proud parent of one daughter, Judy, four sons, Joseph F., Jr., Charles, Gary, and William (Bill) Dyer; and was the proud grandfather of ten grandchildren and the proud great-grandfather of six great-grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, it is not often that a man of Joe Dyer's stature walks among us; he leaves behind an indelible legacy of honor and distinction in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the citizens of Cookeville and Putnam County are privileged to have had the benefit of knowing this inimitable man, who acted on behalf of his constituents with energy, forthrightness and courage; and

WHEREAS, it is most appropriate that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we honor the memory of Mr. Joseph F.

Dyer, Sr., reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family and friends of Mr. Dyer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.